

## Practicing Precision in ALK and ROS1 Rearrangement–Positive NSCLC:

Testing, Targets, and Treatments





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- Maria E. Arcila, MD, reported a financial interest/relationship or affiliation in the form of Consultant: Bristol-Myers Squibb Co, AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals LP, and Janssen Oncology. Serve(d) as a speaker or a member of a speakers bureau for: Biocartis and Invivoscribe.
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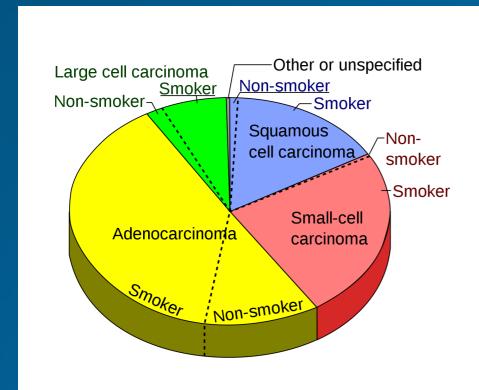


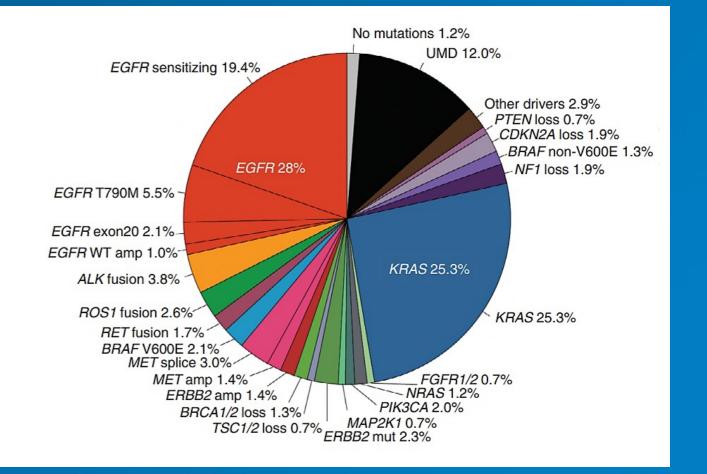
# The Impact of Precision Medicine in NSCLC and Overview of Unique Subtypes of NSCLC

## **Lung Cancer: Molecular Heterogeneity**

**NSCLC** is Heterogenous

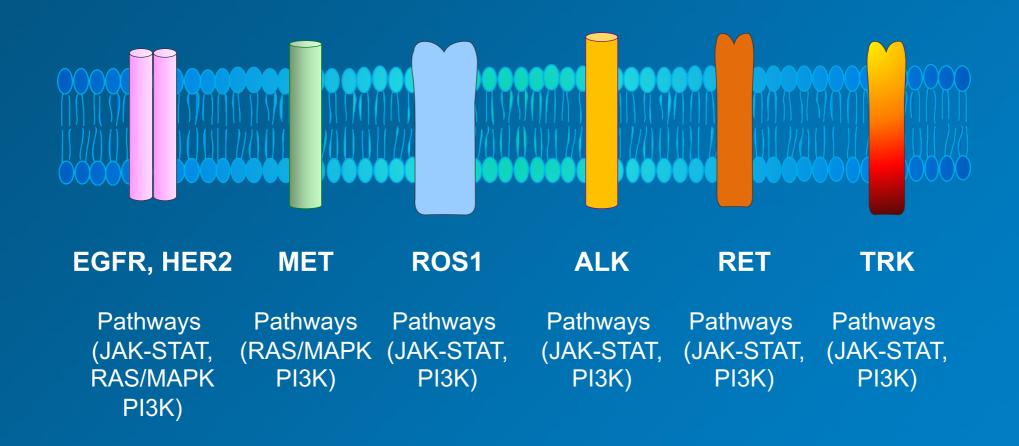
#### **Biomarker Distribution in Adenocarcinoma**





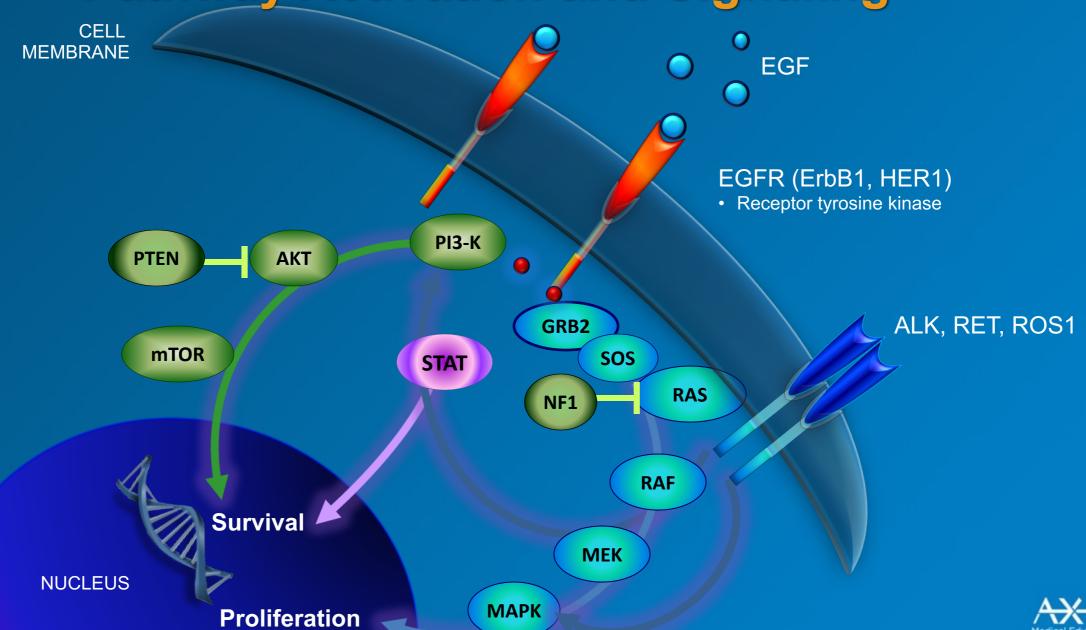


## High Number of Receptor Tyrosine Kinases or Effectors in Common Downstream Pathways

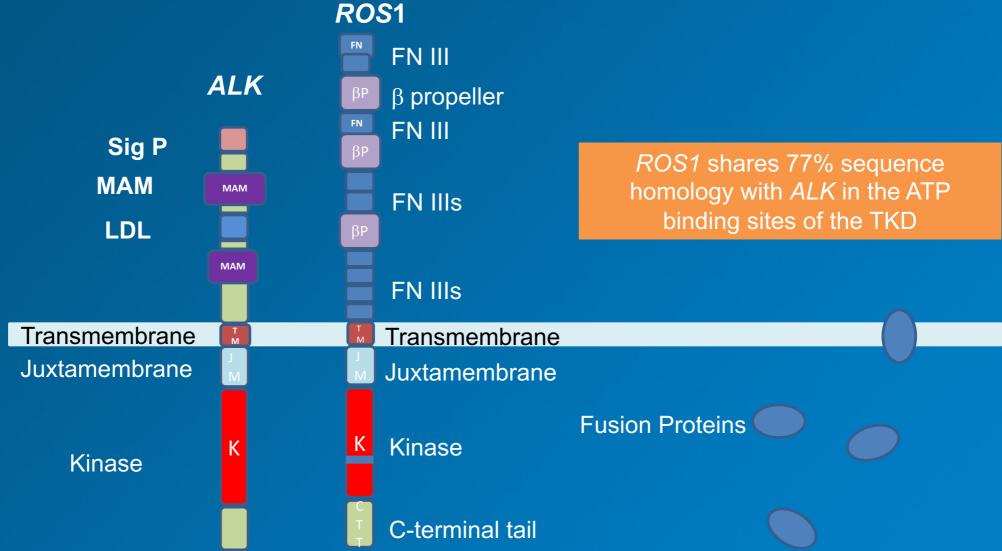




## Pathway Activation and Signaling



### **ALK and ROS1**



### **ALK** Fusions

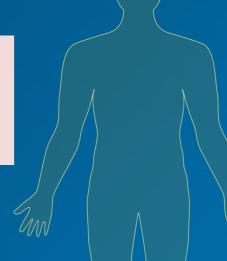
ALCL (~55%)
NPM1 (5q35.1)
TPM3 (1q21.3)
ATIC (2q35)
TFG (3q12.2)
TRAF1 (9q33.2)
CLTC (17q23.1)
RNF213 (17q25.3)
TPM4 (19p13.1)
MYH9 (22q12.3)

MSN (Xq12)

Additional rare

rearrangements

DLBCL (<1%)
RANBP2 (2q13)
EML4 (2p21)
SEC31A (4q21.22)
SQSTM1 (5q35)
NPM1 (5q35.1)



#### **Other Cancers**

Breast Cancer EML4 (2p21)

Colorectal Cancer (<1%)

EML4 (2p21) WDCP (2p23.3)

Esophageal Cancer (ND) TPM4 (19p13.1)

Ovarian cancer (ND) FN1 (2q35)

Renal Cell Carcinoma (<1%)

VCL (10q22.2) TPM3 (1q21.2)

EML4 (2p21)

STRN (2p22.2)

Renal Medullary Carcinoma (ND)

VCL (10q22.2)

#### **NSCLC (3-7%)**

EML4 (2p21)

TPR (1q31.1)

CRIM1 (2p22.2)

STRN (2p22.1)

TFG (3q12.2)

HIP1 (7q11.23)

PTPN3 (9q31)

KIF5B (10p11.22)

KLC1 (14q32.3)

CLTC (17q23.1)

#### IMT (~50%)

TPM3 (1q21.3)

RANBP2 (2q13)

ATIC (2q35)

SEC31A (4q21.22)

CARS (11p15.4)

CARS (TIP15.4

PPFIBP1 (12p11)

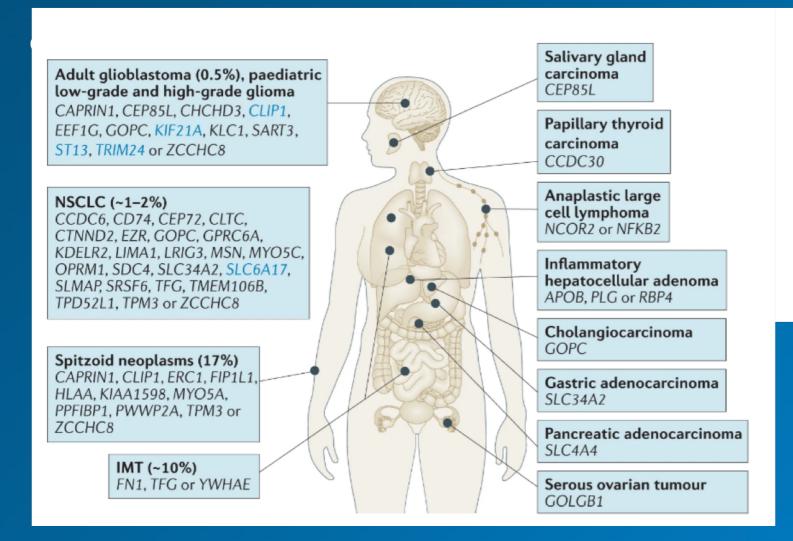
CLTC (17q23.1)

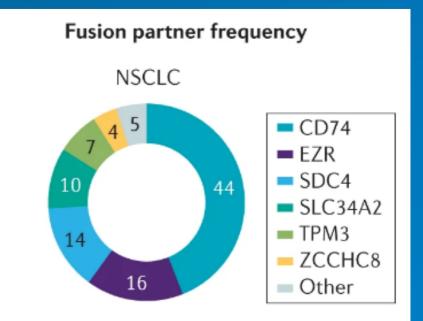
TPM4 (19p13.1)

ALK, anaplastic lymphoma kinase; ALCL, anaplastic large-cell lymphoma; ATIC, 5-Aminoimidazole-4-Carboxamide Ribonucleotide Formyltransferase/IMP Cyclohydrolase; CARS, cysteinyl-tRNA synthetase; CLTC, clatherin heavy chain; CRIM1, cysteine rich transmembrane BMP regulator 1; DLBCL, diffuse large B-cell lymphoma; EML4, echinoderm microtubule-associated protein-like 4; FN1, fibronectin 1; HIP1, huntingtin interacting protein 1; IMT, inflammatory myofibroblastic tumor; KIF5B, kinesin family member 5B; KLC1, kinesin light chain 1; MSN, moesin; MYH9, myosin heavy chain 9; N.D., not described; NPM1, nucleophosmin; NSCLC, non-small-cell lung cancer; PPFIBP1, PPFIA binding protein 1; PTPN3, protein tyrosine phosphatase, non-receptor type 3; RANBP2, RAN binding protein 2; RCC, renal cell carcinoma; RMC, renal medullary carcinoma; RNF213, ring finger protein 213; SEC31A, SEC31 Homolog A; SQSTM1, sequestosome 1; STRN, Striatin; TFG, TRK-fused gene; TPM3, tropomyosin 3; TPM4, tropomyosin 4;



### **ROS1** Fusions

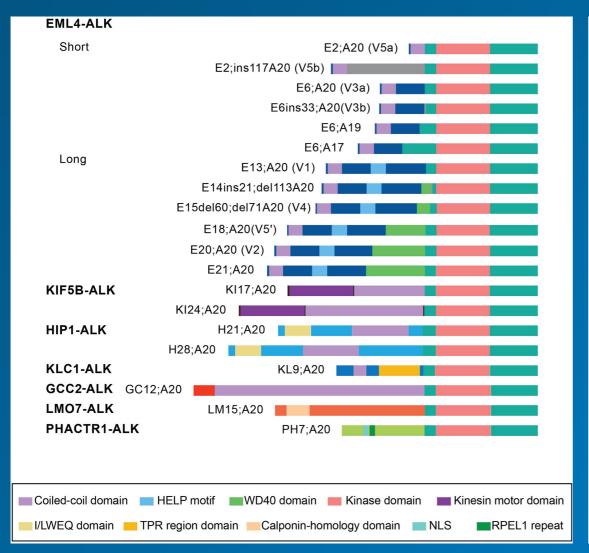


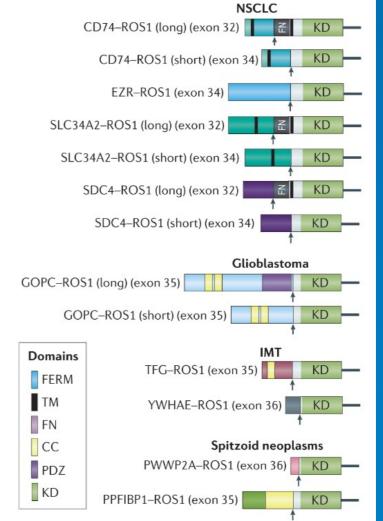




## **High Heterogeneity**

#### **Different Break Points, Different Partners**



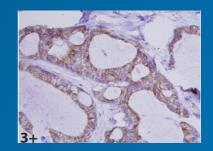




### **Methods of Detection**

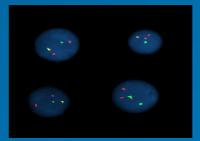
**IHC** 

- Detects Protein expression surrogate for fusion
- No information on the breakpoint region or the partner



**FISH** 

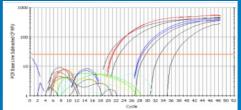
- Detects gene break low throughput
- Use fluorescent probes detect and localize specific DNA sequences - Generally 1-2 gene targets
- No information of breakpoint region or partner



RT-PCR

- Low throughput fusion product detection
- Detects few specific fusions depending on design





NGS

- High throughput detection
- Comprehensive detection but depends on assay type and design





## Either IHC, FISH or NGS Can be Performed for *ALK* Testing

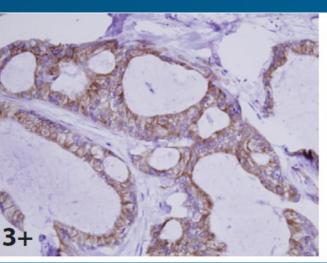
ALK IHC: Usually clearly positive or negative (95%), but occasionally equivocal (ALK D5F3 FDA approved)

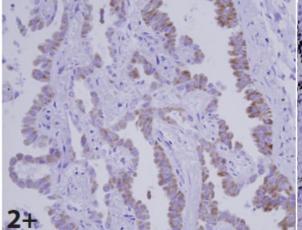
**POSITIVE:** 

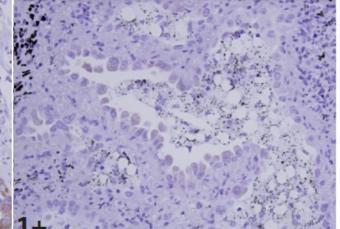
Strong-moderate cytoplasmic staining with membranous accentuation

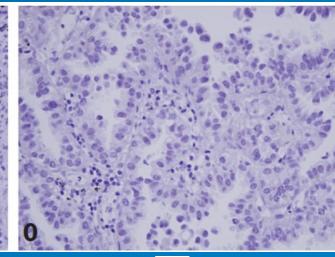
Rare Cases - equivocal 1+ staining

**NEGATIVE** 











**Sufficient to qualify for ALK inhibitors** 



2018 Guideline:
Any weak equivocal staining
must be confirmed with
FISH/molecular

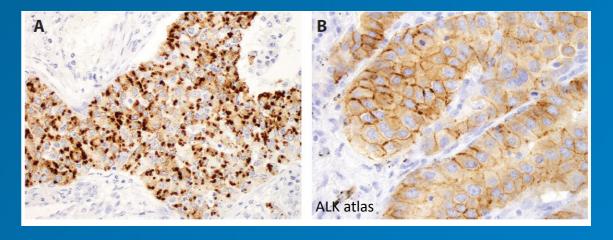


No further testing



## Testing for ROS1 Fusions

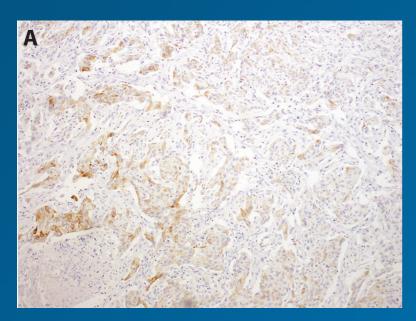
- Highly-sensitive antibody for ROS1 – D4D6 is commercially available
- Fusion+ cases usually have diffuse/strong staining
- Unlike ALK it has imperfect specificity (false-positive staining in fusion-negative cases)



Patterns vary with *ROS1* fusion partners (Cytoplasmic +/- membranous accentuation, some globular staining)
Strong/diffuse



## ROS1: Nonspecific Staining in Fusion-Negative Cases



- Nonspecific staining is typically patchy and weak
- Rate of nonspecific staining reported as 5%-10% (higher if focal staining is included)

| IASLC Guidelines   |                          |
|--|--------------------------|
| ROS1 testing must be performed on all lung adenocarcinoma patients, irrespective of clinical characteristics   | Strong recommendation    |
| ROS1 IHC may be used as a screening test in lung adenocarcinoma patients; however, positive ROS1 IHC results should be confirmed by a molecular or cytogenetic method. | Expert consensus opinion |





# Practicing Precision in ALK+ NSCLC: Overview of ALK Targeted Agents for NSCLC



## First-Line TKI Therapy: Study Design of Regulatory Data Sets

## **ALK Inhibitors: Trial Design**

#### **KEY ELIGIBILITY**

- Advanced or metastaticALK+ NSCLC
- ALK+ by central IHC testing
- ALK inhibitor-naïve
- ECOG PS 0-2
- Measurable disease
- Asymptomatic brain metastases allowed

#### **Alectinib**

ALEX 600mg BID, n=152 J-ALEX 300mg BID, n=103

#### **Brigatinib**

ALTA-1L 180 mg QD, n = 137

#### Lorlatinib

CROWN 100 mg QD, n = 149

#### **Ensartinib**

eXalt3 225 mg QD, n = 143

#### Crizotinib 250 mg BID

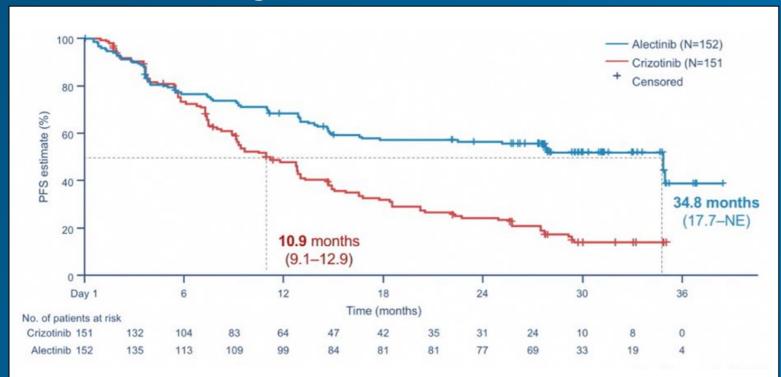
#### **ENDPOINTS**

- o Primary:
  - PFS
- o Secondary:
  - ORR
  - OS
  - CNS outcomes
  - Safety and tolerability
  - Patient-reported outcomes



### **ALEX: Alectinib Superior to Crizotinib in First-Line Setting**

#### **Progression-Free Survival**



| Median PFS, mo                           | Crizotinib | Alectinib | HR   |
|--|------------|-----------|------|
| Final median PFS, investigator-assessed  | 10.9       | 34.8      | 0.43 |
| Patients with baseline CNS metastases    | 7.4        | 25.4      | 0.37 |
| Patients without baseline CNS metastases | 14.8       | 38.6      | 0.46 |

#### **Overall Survival\***

| Result    | Crizotinib | Alectinib | HR   |
|-----------|------------|-----------|------|
| Median OS | 57.4 mo    | NR        | 0.67 |
| 5-year OS | 45.5%      | 62.5%     |      |

\*OS data immature



## J-ALEX: Progression-Free Survival

| PFS (IRF-assessed)   | Crizotinib Alectinib |             |  |
|----------------------|----------------------|-------------|--|
| Median PFS, mo       | 10.2                 | Not reached |  |
| HR                   | 0.34                 |             |  |
| P                    | <.0001               |             |  |
| Final median PFS, mo | 10.2 34.1            |             |  |
| HR                   | 0.37                 |             |  |



## ALTA-1L: Progression-Free Survival Brigatinib Superior to Crizotinib in First-Line Setting

| PFS   | Crizotinib | Brigatinib |  |
|---|------------|------------|--|
| First prespecified interim analysis BIRC-assessed estimated 12-month PFS, % | 43%        | 67%        |  |
| HR  | 0.49       |            |  |
| P   | <.001      |            |  |
| Second interim analysis<br>BIRC-assessed median PFS, mo                     | 11.0 24.0  |            |  |
| HR  | 0.49       |            |  |
| Р   | <.0001     |            |  |
| Second interim analysis investigator-assessed median PFS, mo                | 9.2 29.4   |            |  |
| HR  | 0.43       |            |  |



## **CROWN: Progression-Free Survival**

| PFS                                   | Crizotinib | Lorlatinib |  |
|---------------------------------------|------------|------------|--|
| BIRC-assessed median PFS, mo          | 9.3        | NR         |  |
| HR                                    | 0.28       |            |  |
| P                                     | <.001      |            |  |
| 12-month PFS, %                       | 39%        | 78%        |  |
| HR                                    | 0.28       |            |  |
| P                                     | <.001      |            |  |
| Investigator-assessed 12-month PFS, % | 35% 80%    |            |  |
| HR                                    | 0.21       |            |  |



## ALK+ NSCLC: First-Line ALK Inhibitor Summary

|                       | Alect             | tinib             | Brigatinib        | Lorlatinib      | Ceritinib         | Crizotinib        |
|-----------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Trial                 | ALEX              | J-ALEX            | ALTA-1            | CROWN           | ASCEND-4          | PROFILE 1014      |
| Comparator            | crizo             | tinib             | crizotinib        | crizotinib      | chemotherapy      | chemotherapy      |
| Median PFS,<br>months | 34.8<br>(HR 0.43) | 34.1<br>(HR 0.37) | 24.0<br>(HR 0.49) | NR<br>(HR 0.28) | 16.6<br>(HR 0.55) | 10.9<br>(HR 0.45) |



## eXalt3: Progression-Free Survival

| PFS  | Crizotinib | Ensartinib |  |
|--|------------|------------|--|
| ITT population<br>BIRC-assessed median PFS, mo       | 12.7       | 25.8       |  |
| HR   | 0.51       |            |  |
| P  | <.0001     |            |  |
| Modified ITT population BIRC-assessed median PFS, mo | 12.7 NR    |            |  |
| HR   | 0.51       |            |  |
| Р  | .001       |            |  |

- ITT population: patients with locally tested ALK+ NSCLC
- Modified ITT population: all centrally ALK+ patients by Abbott FISH test





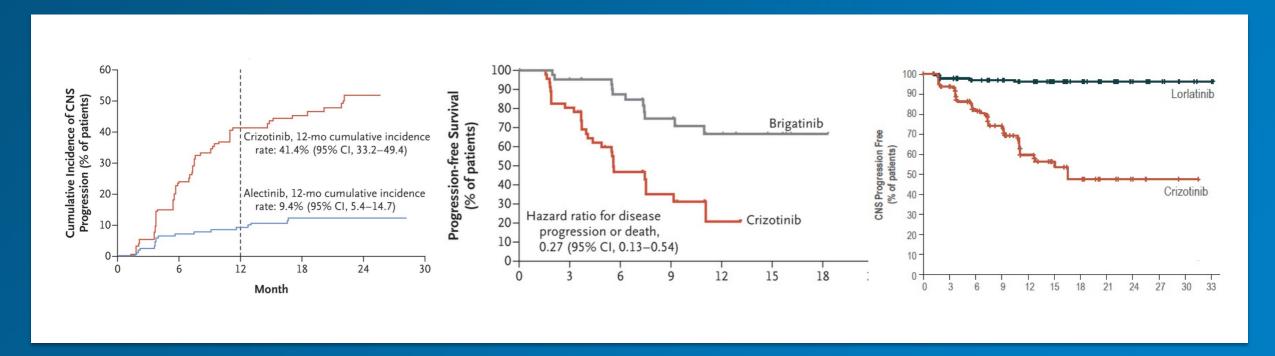
## CNS Activity of Next-Generation ALK Inhibitors

### **ALK TKI CNS Outcomes**

**Alectinib** 

**Brigatinib** 

Lorlatinib





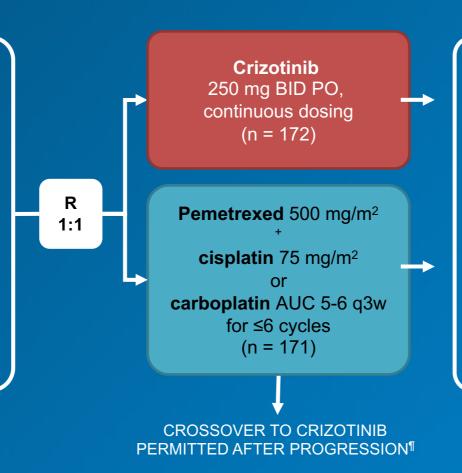


## **ALK TKI Therapy versus Chemotherapy**

## PROFILE 1014: Study Design

#### **KEY ELIGIBILITY**

- ALK positive with central FISH testing\*
- Locally advanced, recurrent, or metastatic non-squamous NSCLC
- No prior systemic treatment for advanced disease
- ECOG PS 0-2
- Measurable disease
- Stable treated brain metastases allowed



#### **ENDPOINTS**

- o Primary:
  - PFS (RECIST 1.1, IRR)
- Secondary:
  - ORR
  - OS
  - Safety
  - Patient-reported outcomes (EORTC QLQ-C30, LC13, EQ-5D)

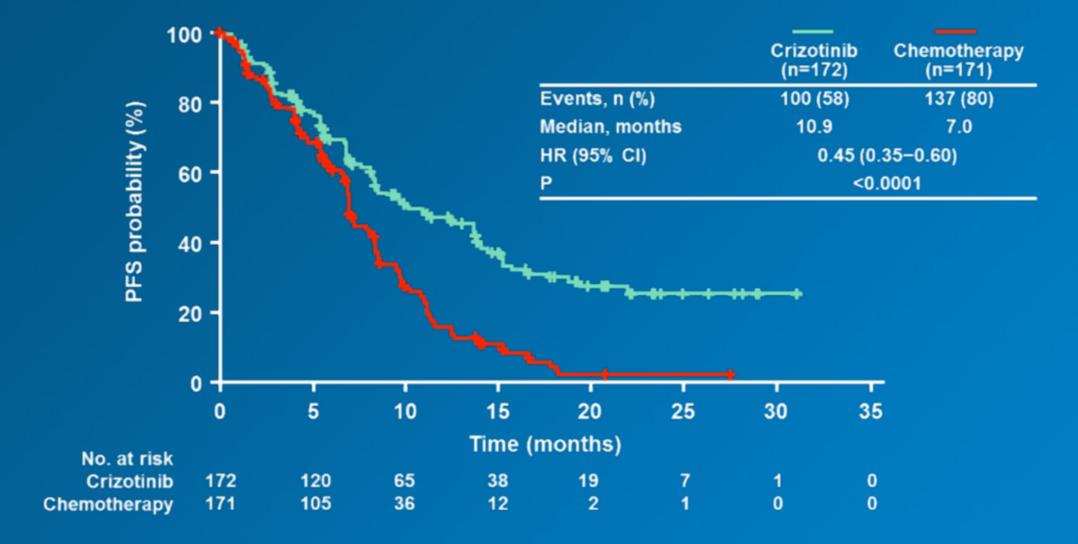
<sup>‡</sup>Stratification factors: ECOG PS (0/1 vs. 2), Asian vs. non-Asian race, and brain metastases (present vs. absent). ¶Assessed by IRR.





<sup>\*</sup>ALK status determined using standard ALK break-apart FISH assay.

## PROFILE 1014: Progression-Free Survival





## **ASCEND-4: Study Design**

#### **KEY ELIGIBILITY**

- Stage IIIB/IV ALK+ NSCLC by Ventana IHC test (central)
- Untreated with any systemic anticancer therapy (except neoadjuvant or adjuvant systemic therapy [if relapse had occurred >12 months from the end of therapy])
- WHO PS 0-2
- Neurologically stable brain metastases (symptomatic or not)

Ceritinib PD 750 mg/day (BIRC confirmed) Daily oral dosing in fasting state **Optional** R 1:1 Ceritinib **Chemotherapy (induction investigator choice)** 750 mg Four cycles Pemetrexed 500 mg/m<sup>2</sup> + cisplatin 75 mg/m<sup>2</sup> Optional Crossover Pemetrexed 500 mg/m<sup>2</sup> + carboplatin AUC 5-6 to extension treatment **Pemetrexed** PD CR, PR, SD maintenance (BIRC confirmed) 500 mg/m<sup>2</sup> q21d

#### **Stratified randomization:**

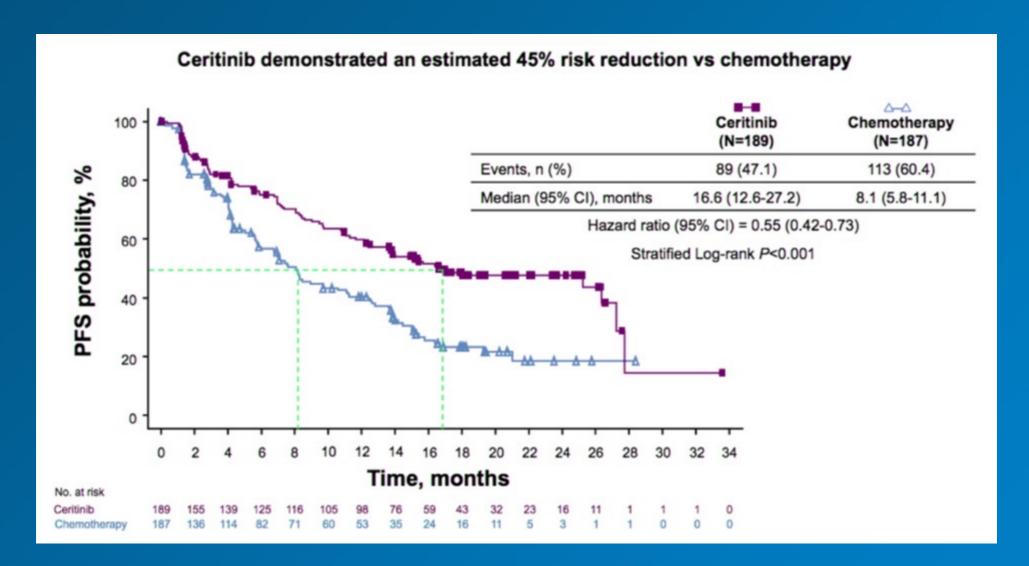
WHO PS

Brain metastases

Prior neoadjuvant/adjuvant chemotherapy



## **ASCEND-4: Progression-Free Survival**







## **Sequential TKI Therapy**

## ALK Rearrangement–Positive Advanced/Metastatic NSCLC: Subsequent Therapy Options

| ALK<br>Inhibitor | Trial(s)           | Reference(s)   |
|------------------|--------------------|--|
| Alectinib        | NP28673<br>Phase 2 | Ou et al. <i>J Clin Oncol</i> . 2016;34:661-668.<br>Shaw et al. <i>Lancet Oncol</i> . 2016;17:234-242. |
| Brigatinib       | Phase 2 ALTA       | Kim et al. <i>J Clin Oncol</i> . 2017;35:2490-2498.  |
| Ceritinib        | ASCEND-5           | Shaw et al. <i>Lancet Oncol</i> . 2017;18:874-886.   |
| Lorlatinib       | Phase 2            | Solomon et al. <i>Lancet Oncol</i> . 2018;19:1654-1667.  |



### **Adverse Effects of ALK TKIs**

|                     | Alectinib     | Brigatinib  | Lorlatinib                           | Ceritinib                     |
|---------------------|---------------|-------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Dose reduction      | 20%           | 38%         | 22%                                  | 20%                           |
| AE profile includes | Transaminitis | Pneumonitis | Hyperlipidemia,<br>Cognitive changes | Gastrointestinal side-effects |





## **Virtual Tumor Board 1**

- 32-year-old woman never smoker who has a 3-cm lung mass, multiple intrathoracic enlarged lymph nodes, liver and bone metastases
- A biopsy specimen of a liver metastasis shows adenocarcinoma consistent with a lung primary
- PD-L1 expression is 95%
- Outside testing shows no EGFR mutations and KRAS was not mutated
- Plasma ctDNA testing returns negative

From a diagnostic perspective, what is the next step?



- Tumor sample sent for next-generation sequencing using DNA-based assay
- Comprehensive evaluation including multiple fusions, mutations and copy number changes in 450 genes was unremarkable for an oncogenic driver

From a diagnostic perspective, what is the next step?



- Leftover tumor is sent for RNA-based targeted sequencing
- An EML4-ALK fusion is identified
- An MRI of the brain shows a few subcentimeter lesions
- The patient is asymptomatic except for a mild cough

What is your preferred treatment?



- The patient was treated with brigatinib and had 2 years of disease control with therapy
- Thereafter, a solitary bone metastasis with a substantial soft tissue component begins to grow

What is the next diagnostic step?



- Biopsy of the metastatic lesion confirms lung adenocarcinoma
- Molecular profiling shows persistence of the ALK fusion, now with an acquired ALK G1202R mutation

What is the next therapeutic step?





# Practicing Precision in ROS1+ NSCLC: Overview of ROS1-Targeted Agents for NSCLC

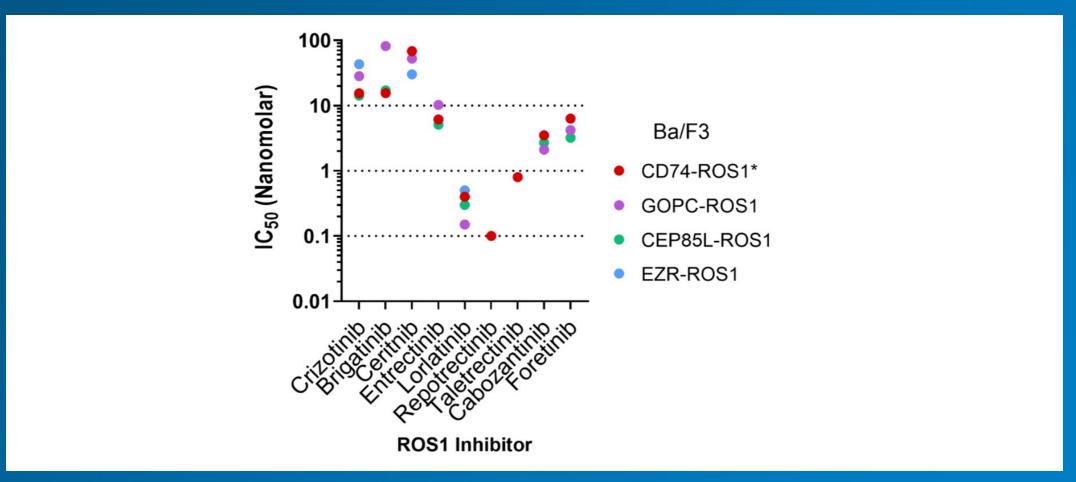
### ROS1 Rearrangement—Positive Advanced/Metastatic NSCLC

| NCCN®<br>Recommendation | Drug                      | Trial(s)                               | Reference(s)  |  |  |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|--|---|--|--|
|                         | First-Line Therapy        |  |   |  |  |
| Preferred               | Entrectinib*              | ALKA-372-001<br>STARTRK-1<br>STARTRK-2 | Drilon et al. <i>Lancet Oncol</i> . 2020;21:261-270.  |  |  |
|                         | Crizotinib                | PROFILE 1001                           | Shaw et al. <i>N Engl J Med</i> . 2014;371:1963-1971.   |  |  |
| Other recommended       | Ceritinib                 | Phase 2                                | Lim et al. <i>J Clin Oncol</i> . 2017;35:2613-2618.   |  |  |
| Subsequent Therapy      |                           |  |   |  |  |
|                         | Lorlatinib                | Phase 2                                | Solomon et al. <i>Lancet Oncology</i> . 2018;19:1654-1667. Shaw et al. <i>J Clin Oncol</i> . 2019;37:1370-1379. |  |  |
|                         | Entrectinib<br>(CNS PD)** | ALKA-372-001<br>STARTRK-1<br>STARTRK-2 | Drilon et al. <i>Lancet Oncol</i> . 2020;21:261-270.  |  |  |



# Early- and Next-Generation ROS1 TKIs have Varying Potencies

Inhibitory activity of ROS1 TKIs against different ROS1 fusions in Ba/F3 cell assays





# Early-Generation ROS1 TKIs Are Active in TKI-Naïve Patients

| ROS1 TKI    | Study (phase)        | ORR  | Median DoR, mo | Median PFS, mo | Median OS, mo |
|-------------|----------------------|------|----------------|----------------|---------------|
| Crizotinib  | PROFILE 1001 (1b)    | 72%  | 24.7           | 19.3           | 51.4          |
|             | OxOnc (2)            | 72%  | 19.7           | 15.9           | -             |
|             | EUCROSS (2)          | 70%  | 19.0           | 20.0           | -             |
|             | AcSe (2)             | 69%  | -              | 5.5            | 17.2          |
|             | METROS (2)           | 65%  | 21.4           | 22.8           | -             |
| Entrectinib | Drilon et al. (1/2)  | 77%  | 24.6           | 19.0           | -             |
| Ceritinib   | Lim et al. (2)       | 67%  | 21.0           | 19.3           | 24.0          |
| Brigatinib  | Gettinger et al. (1) | 100% | -              | -              | -             |



# Early-Generation ROS1 TKIs Achieve Improved Outcomes Compared to Chemotherapy

| Study (n)        | Efficacy Measure | Crizotinib | Platinum-based chemotherapy | P     |
|------------------|------------------|------------|-----------------------------|-------|
| Shen et al (77)  | ORR              | 86.7%      | 44.7%                       | <.001 |
|                  | Median PFS       | 18.4 mo    | 8.6 mo                      | <.001 |
| Xu et al (102)   | ORR              | 83.9%      | 56.5%                       | .002  |
|                  | Median PFS       | 14.9 mo    | 8.5 mo                      | .001  |
| Zhang et al (51) | ORR              | 80.0%      | 40.8%                       | <.05  |
|                  | Median PFS       | 9.4 mo     | 3.5 mo                      | <.05  |

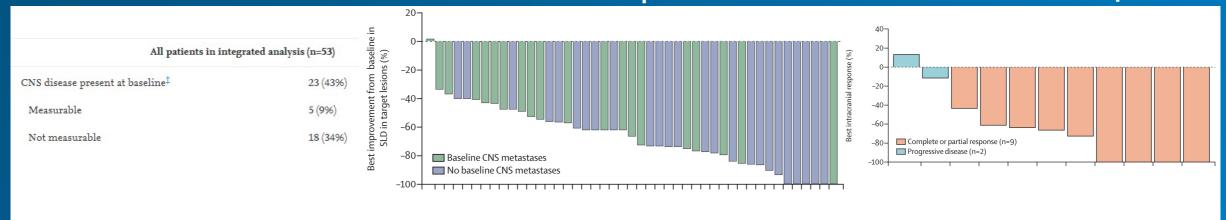
| Series                     | Chemotherapy  | ORR                         | Median PFS                  |
|----------------------------|---|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Xu et al                   | Platinum-based, first-line (n = 46) Non-platinum agents were: pemetrexed (n = 35), paclitaxel (n = 5), docetaxel (n = 2) or gemcitabine (n = 4) | _                           | 8.5 mo<br>(95% CI 6.8-10.3) |
|                            | Platinum-pemetrexed (n = 35; subset analysis of the above)  | -                           | 8.8 mo<br>(95% CI 6.8-10.8) |
| Shen et al                 | Platinum-pemetrexed, first-line (n = 47)  | 44.7%<br>(95% CI 29.8–57.4) | 8.6 mo<br>(95% CI 6.9-10.3) |
|                            | With bevacizumab  | -                           | 9.0 mo                      |
|                            | Without bevacizumab   | -                           | 8.1 mo                      |
| Park et al                 | Pemetrexed-based (n = 90)   | 53.3%                       | 8.0 mo<br>(95% CI 6.4-11.7) |
| Drilon et al               | Pemetrexed-based (n = 10) Alone or combination with a platinum agent ± bevacizumab  | _                           | 23 mo                       |
| Mazieres et al<br>(EUROS1) | Pemetrexed-based chemotherapy (n = 31) Pemetrexed alone or in combination with a platinum agent   | 57.5%                       | 7.2 mo<br>(95% CI 4.8-9.6)  |



## **Entrectinib Trial Enriched for Patients With Baseline Brain Metastases**

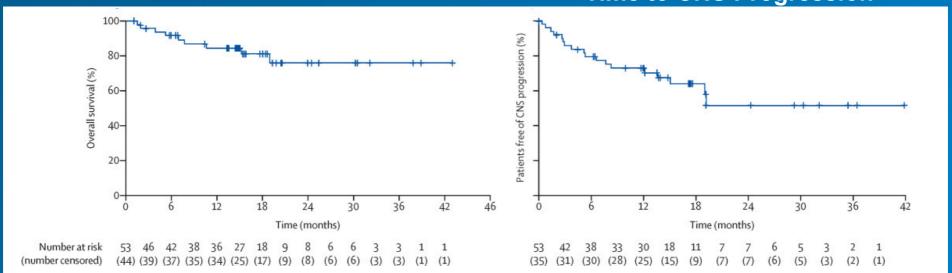


#### **Intracranial Response**





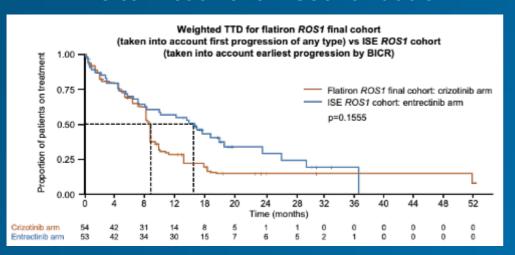
#### **Time to CNS Progression**



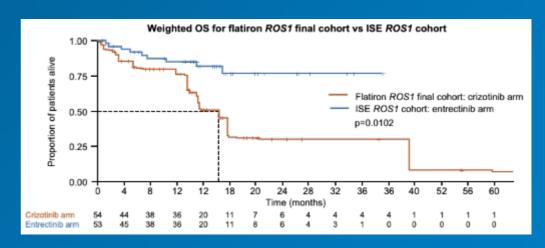


# Early-Generation ROS1 TKIs Active in ROS1-rearranged Lung Cancers

#### **Time to Treatment Discontinuation**



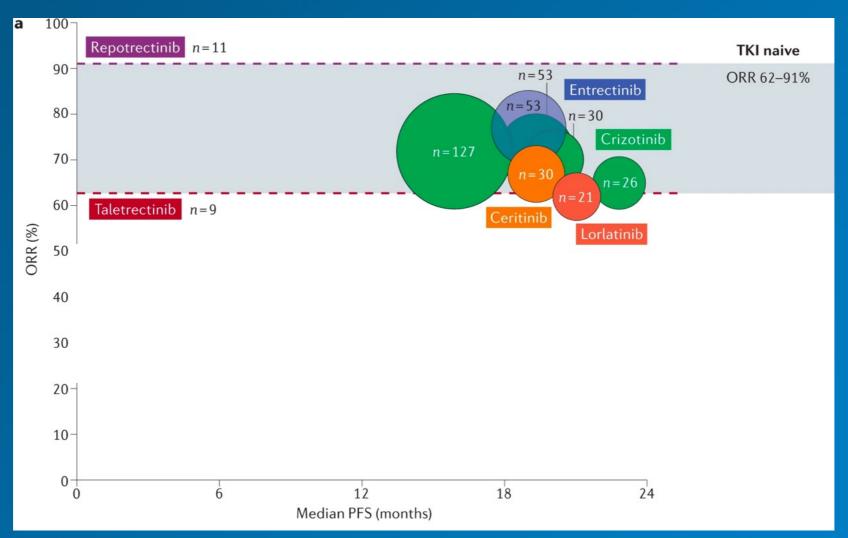
#### **Overall Survival**



|     | Crizotinib | Entrectenib |
|-----|------------|-------------|
| TTD | 8.8 months | 14.6 months |
| os  | ~20 months | Not reached |

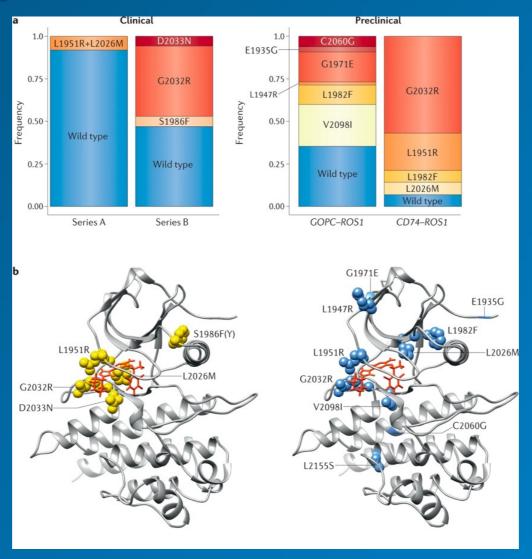


# Next-Generation ROS1 TKIs Yet to Achieve Much Longer PFS Compared to Early-Generation TKIs



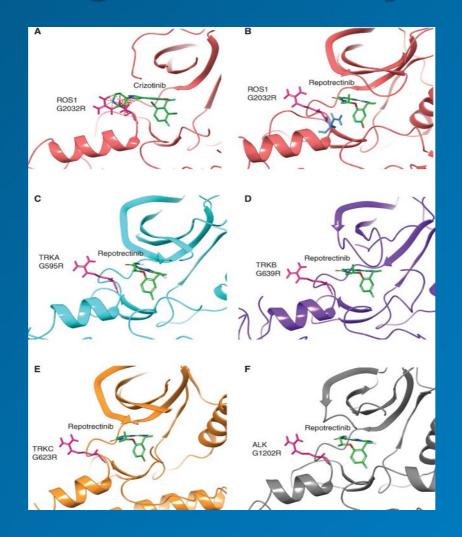


# On-Target Resistance to ROS1 TKI Therapy Occurs in Form of Acquired *ROS1* Kinase Domain Mutations



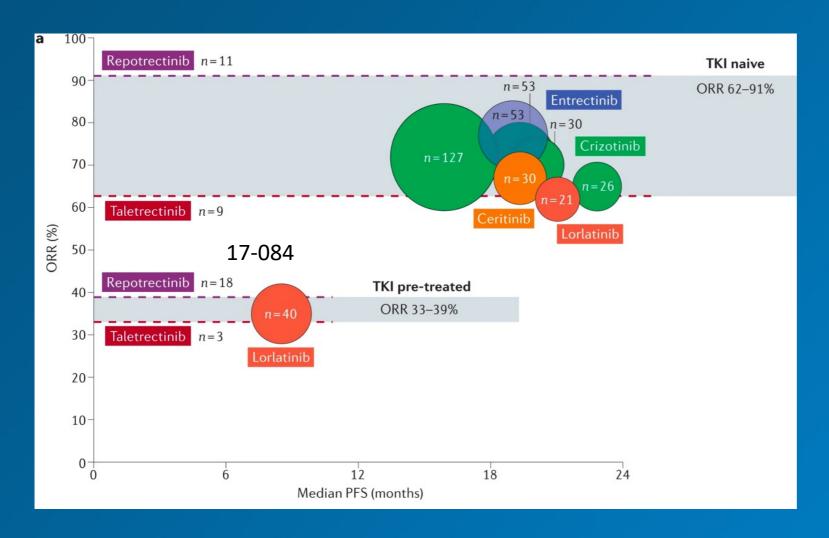


# Common Design Parameter of Next-Generation ROS1 TKIs: Smaller Compared to First-Generation Drugs and Macrocyclics





# Response to Next-Generation ROS1 TKIs in ROS1 TKI Pretreated NSCLCs Occurs in a Subset of Patients

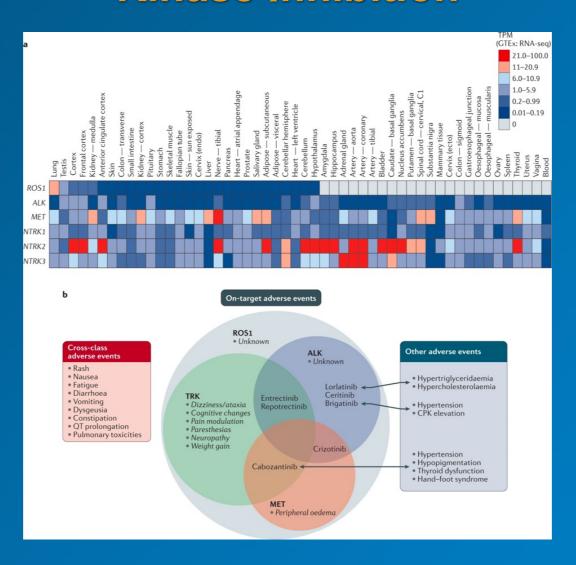


#### Repotrectinib

 FDA fast-track
 designation 8/2020
 (prior chemo and 1-2 prior ROS1 TKIs)



# Consequences of ROS1 Inhibition in Non-Neoplastic Cells Remain Unclear: AEs Defined by Concurrent Kinase Inhibition







## **Virtual Tumor Board 2**

### ROS1+ Case Study

- 65-year-old male, former smoker with 50 pack-year history, presents with multiple bilateral pulmonary nodules and brain metastases
- Biopsy of one of the lung nodules positive for adenocarcinoma consistent with a lung primary
- A contralateral biopsy specimen is morphologically similar
- DNA-based next-generation sequencing finds no actionable drivers except a complex ROS1 rearrangement of unknown significance

What is the next diagnostic step?



## ROS1+ Case Study

- FISH testing confirms ROS1 probe break apart and RNA-based targeted sequencing finds an EZR-ROS1 fusion
- While testing was being performed, a local oncologist began carboplatin, pemetrexed, and pembrolizumab with a notable response after 2 cycles

What is the next therapeutic step?



## ROS1+ Case Study

- Chemoimmunotherapy was continued for 1 year after which widespread progression was noted
- A new liver lesion was biopsied but was inadequate and a second biopsy was not deemed feasible
- Plasma ctDNA identified a ROS1 G2032R mutation; however, a ROS1 fusion was not detected

Does the absence of a *ROS1* fusion preclude any further ROS1-directed therapy?





# Practicing Precision in ALK and ROS1 Rearrangement–Positive NSCLC:

Testing, Targets, and Treatments

